Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 16056 291255Z ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 PM-05 NSCE-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 DOEE-00 /110 W

-----088438 291257Z /43

O 291243Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0906

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TECH, ENRG

SUBJ: NEW DOE ADJUSTABLE FIXED COMMITMENT CONTRACT FOO

- ENRICHMENT SERVICES

REF: (A) CAIRO 14456, (B) CAIRO 9901

- 1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED TEXT OF AND BACKGROUND ON NEW DOE DRAFT ADJUSTABLE FIXED COMMITMENT CONTRACT (AFC). SEE REF A AND PREVIOUS. NEITHER WE NOR GOE MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY HAVE EVER RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION (REF B) AND THEREFORE WE HAVE NOT YET DISCUSSED GOE'S OPTION RE AFC WITH MINISTRY. SIMILARLY, EMBASSY HAS REFRAINED FROM FORMALLY NOTIFYING GOE OF ITS DELINQUENCY IN PPOVIDING APPENDICES TO CURRENT ENRICHMENT CONTRACT, PER DIRECT CABLE JUNE 5 FROM USDOE OAK RIDGE ADDRESSED TO GOE, PENDING DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON AFC (REF A).
- 2. DUE TO ITS TIMELY NATURE, WE DID, HOWEVER, FORWARD TO GOE TEXT OF JUNE 7 USDOE TELEX MESSAGE CONCERNING CONVERSION TO NEW AFC. MESSAGE CITES DEADLINE OF JUNE 30 FOR GOE SUBMISSION OF ABOVE-MENTIONED APPENDICES AS PRECONLIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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DITION TO POSSIBLE CONTRACT CHANGE-OVER. FAIRLY PROMPT RESPONSE, IN FORM OF LETTER JUNE 28 FROM DEPPRIMIN AND MINELECTRICITY SULTAN TO AMBASSADOR, NOW RECEIVED. DEPPRIMIN'S LETTER STATES THAT GOE HAS NOT RECEIVED DRAFT AFC AND RAISES QUESTIONS ON TWO AMENDMENTS REQUESTED BY GOE JUNE 1, 1977, NOTING AMENDMENTS CAN ONLY BE AGREED UNDER AFC, NOT CURRENT CONTRACT, "IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT

SITUATION REGARDING THE BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT . . . " SULTAN'S COMMUNICATION ALSO COMMENTS THAT DATA FOR APPENDIX A REQUIRED BY DOE CANNOT BE DETERMINED AT PRESENT. HE CONCLUDES BY AGAIN REQUESTING URGENTLY TEXT AND CONDITIONS OF PROPOSED AFC, TO INCLUDE GOEDESIRED AMENDMENTS, AND BY OFFERING TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECT WITH USG ASAP. COPY YF LETTER BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT, NEA/EGY.

- 3. COMMENT: PART OF APPARENT PROBLEM ON AFC DERIVES FROM UNRELIABILITY OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN EGYPTIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON AND GOE IN CAIRO, AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL MAILS, BUT WE ARE ALSO NOT HAPPY WITH USDOE PRACTICE OF SENDING CABLE MESSAGES ADDRESSED DIRECTLY TO SULTAN (WHICH END UP AT EMBASSY). WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS DEALING WITH POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE QUESTIONS COME THROUGH DEPARTMENT WITH INSTRUCTIONS AS APPROPRIATE. FURTHER, WE STILL AWAIT REPLY TO OUR REPEATEDLY-REQUESTED INFORMATION ON AFC FROM DEPARTMENT.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE TRANSMIT ELECTRONICALLY PROPOSED AFC TEXT WITH APPROPRIATE BACKGROUND INFORMATION TALKING POINTS. SUGGEST DOE BE INFORMED OF HIGH DEGREE OF GOE INTEREST IN THIS MATTER, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY SULLAN JUNE 28 LETTER AND ASKED TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SION OF APPENDICES TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1978 TO ALLOW US TO CLEAR UP THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY BOTH DOE AND GOE. FINALLY, IF PRACTICABLE, WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ENSURING THAT ALL DOE MESSAGES TO CAIRO ON SUBJECT ARE FORWARDED THROUGH DEPARTMENT TO EMBASSY. EILTS

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